

Cont  
B1  
obtain a solution, hydrolyzing said solution in the presence of proteases, separating soluble and insoluble phases in the hydrolyzed material, and concentrating said soluble phase thereby to concentrate an active principle thus obtained, the molar mass  $\mu$  of a different molecular species present having a principal peak at about 15,000 Daltons.--

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B2  
--3. (amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conditions of said hydrolysis are so that the pH is maintained constant between 4.0 and 10.0.--

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--4. (amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conditions of said hydrolysis are so that the temperature is maintained between 35 and 80°C.--

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Add the following new claim:

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B3  
--5. (new) A process for firming the skin to counter the effects of aging, comprising:

applying to the skin of a person in need of the same a cosmetologically effective amount of a composition, wherein said composition is obtained from wheat proteins by crushing grains of wheat to obtain a flour, dissolving said flour in water to obtain a solution, hydrolyzing said solution in the presence of proteases, separating soluble and insoluble phases in the hydrolyzed material, and concentrating said soluble phase thereby